

## Message Text

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65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 OPIC-03

AF-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 A-01 OPR-02 SY-05 OC-05 CCO-00

EB-07 TRSE-00 AID-05 XMB-02 /102 W

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P R 101610Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4579

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 6029

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PINS, PINT, PO

SUBJECT: POLITICAL MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

REF: (A) LISBON 6006 DTG 101133Z OCT 75

(B) LISBON 5979 DTG 091430Z OCT 75

SUMMARY: POPULAR DEMOCRATS ARE TAKING HARD LINE SUPPORTING  
RESTORATION OF MILITARY DISCIPLINE. PARTY HAS CALLED ON PRESI-  
DENT TO NAME SOMEONE OTHER THAN HIMSELF AS ARMED FORCES CHIEF AND  
IS USING IMPLIED THREAT OF WITHDRAWAL OF PPD SUPPORT IF GOP DOES  
NOT ACT TO REGAIN AUTHORITY. PPD WILL HOLD MAJOR RALLY IN LISBON  
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NIGHT OF OCT 10. MEANWHILE, THE RADICAL SOLDIERS IN SUV HELD

BIG RALLY IN COIMBRA AND THE ARTILLERY REGIMENT NEAR OPORTO IS STILL OCCUPIED BY SUV. PS RALLY OCT 10 SCHEDULED AT SAME TIME AND PLACE AS PCP-SUPPORTED RALLY OFFEREDPOTENTIAL FOR CONFRONTATION IN OPORTO. END SUMMARY.

1. PPD REACTION: THE POPULAR DEMOCRATIC PARTY (PPD) REACTED QUICKLY AND ANGRILY TO OCT 8 VIOLENCE IN OPORTO (REF A). PPD SECRETARY GENERAL, SA CARNEIRO, IN OCT. 10 PRESS CONFERENCE, CALLED ON PRESIDENT TO NAME NEW CHIEF OF STAFF OF ARMED FORCES IN ORDER TO RESTORE DISCIPLINE TO ARMED FORCES. (PRESIDENT NOW HOLDS THAT POSITION HIMSELF.) PPD ALSO ACCUSED COMMUNISTS (PCP) OF BEING BEHIND "SOLDIERS UNITED WILL WIN" (SUV) AND OTHER MANIFESTATIONS OF MILITARY INDISCIPLINE. INFORMED PPD SOURCE TOLD EMBOFF THAT PPD WOULD GO ALL OUT TO FORCE "CLARIFICATION OF SITUATION" WITHIN THE NEXT WEEK AND THAT PARTY WAS PREPARED TO "PROVOKE A CRISIS" IF NECESSARY. ON OCT 9, SA CARNEIRO CABLED SUPPORT TO NORTHERN REGION COMMANDER PIRES VELOSO AND CABLED PRESIDENT COSTA GOMES DEMANDING THAT COMMUNIST MEDIA VERSIONS OF RASP EVENTS BE SET STRAIGHT -- AN OBJECTIVE ACHIEVED WITH COUNCIL OF MINISTERS STATEMENT EXONERATING PPD (REF B). PPD HAS SCHEDULED MAJOR RALLY IN LISBON OCT 10.

2. RASP DISSIDENTS: IN OCT 9 PRESS CONFERENCE, RADICAL MILITARY AND CIVILIANS, WHO CONTINUE TO OCCUPY SERRA DO PILAR ARTILLERY (RASP) HEADQUARTERS IN OPORTO, GAVE THEIR VERSION OF OCT 8 CLASH WITH PPD. RASP DISSIDENTS BLAMED PPD DEMONSTRATORS AND TROOPS SENT BY PIRES VELOSO FOR VIOLENCE. DISSIDENTS CALLED AGAIN FOR REMOVAL OF PIRES VELOSO AND VOICED HOPE THAT "REINFORCEMENTS" WOULD COME FROM LISBON LIGHT ARTILLERY REGIMENT (RALIS) AND FROM COIMBRA INFANTRY REGIMENT.

3. SUV RALLY: SIZEABLE CROWD, INCLUDING LARGE CONTINGENT OF UNIFORMED MILITARY, TOOK PART IN OCT 9 SUV DEMONSTRATION IN COIMBRA. SOME DEMONSTRATORS WERE REPORTEDLY BUSSED TO COIMBRA FROM AS FAR AWAY AS LISBON. SUV SPEAKERS LAUDED UNITY OF "POPULAR MASSES" AND EXPRESSED SUPPORT FOR RADICAL MILITARY AND CIVILIAN GROUP OCCUPYING RASP. DEMONSTRATION OF SUPPORT FOR RADICAL MILITARY POLICE REGIMENT SCHEDULED FOR SAME TIME IN LISBON FIZZLED AFTER FALLING OUT AMONG ORGANIZERS.

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4. PS DEMONSTRATION: THE SOCIALIST PARTY (PS) HAS CALLED A RALLY FOR EVENING OF OCT 10 IN OPORTO CENTRAL SQUARE. PCP IN OPORTO ISSUED STATEMENT OCT 9 CONDEMNING PROPOSED DEMONSTRATION AS "PROVOCATIVE AND ILLEGAL ACT," IN VIEW OF PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED DEMONSTRATION IN SUPPORT OF COMMUNIST-DOMINATED OPORTO MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, WHICH WAS DISMISSED SEVERAL WEEKS AGO BY OPORTO GOVERNOR DR. CAL BRANDAO, A SOCIALIST.

5. COMMENT: PPD IS IN AN ANGRY MOOD, AND HAS DECIDED TO FORCE TO A HEAD QUESTION OF WHETHER THE GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO ENFORCE ITS AUTHORITY. THE IMPLIED THREAT, SHOULD THE GOVERNMENT FAIL TO ACT, IS FORMAL PPD WITHDRAWAL OF SUPPORT FOR THE GOVERNMENT. THE PPD REQUEST THAT A NEW ARMED FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF BE NAMED REFLECTS THE PPD'S SERIOUS DOUBTS ABOUT COSTA GOMES' WILLINGNESS TO TAKE THE KIND OF ACTION THE PPD AND OTHERS BELIEVE NECESSARY TO RESTORE ARMED FORCES DISCIPLINE. PS DEMONSTRATION TONIGHT (OCT 10) IN OPORTO WILL KEEP TENSIONS HIGH.  
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## Message Attributes

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